



State Board of Equalization

News Release

Chairman Jerome E. Horton

4th District – Los Angeles

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**For Immediate Release
June 8, 2011**

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BOE Chair Horton Supportive of AB 1424

Jerome E. Horton, Chairman of the State Board of Equalization, announced today that he is supportive of AB 1424, introduced by the Assembly Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

This bill would require the Franchise Tax Board to make available the list of the 250 largest tax delinquencies at least twice each calendar year instead of once a year, as required under current law AB1418 (Horton). In addition, this bill would authorize a state governmental licensing entity that issues professional or occupational licenses, certificates, registrations, or permits, to suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue a license if the licensee's name is included on the list of the 250 largest tax delinquencies.

While Chairman Horton is supportive of the bill, he indicated that the language of the bill should include the Board of Equalization, in addition to the Franchise Tax Board, and that the list of the 250 largest delinquencies should be increased to include the top 500 delinquents for both FTB and BOE.

Chairman Horton agrees that state governmental licensing entities should have the ability to suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue a license if the licensee's name is included on the list, however he cautions that this tool should be used with discretion and as a last resort. "We should not kill the goose that lays the golden egg unless rotten" Chairman Horton said.

Chairman Horton authored the legislation (AB 1418, 2006) that created the top 250 tax delinquents state law when he was a member of the California State Assembly. The BOE and Franchise Tax Board combined have collected more than \$85 million in delinquent state and local taxes under AB 1418. Publication of the list of tax delinquencies, per Chairman Horton's AB 1418, has proven a successful way to prompt the delinquent taxpayers to come forward and pay the amounts due promptly.

Elected in 2010, Chairman Jerome E. Horton is the Fourth District Member of the California State Board of Equalization, representing more than 8.5 million residents in Los Angeles County. He is also the Board of Equalization Legislative Committee chairman. He is the first to serve on the Board of Equalization with over 21 years of experience with the Board of Equalization. Horton previously served as an Assembly Member of the California State Assembly from 2000-2006.

The five-member California State Board of Equalization is a publicly elected tax board. The Board of Equalization collects more than \$48 billion annually in taxes and fees supporting state and local government services. It hears business tax appeals, acts as the appellate body for franchise and personal income tax appeals, and serves a significant role in the assessment and administration of property taxes. For more information on other taxes and fees in California, visit www.taxes.ca.gov.

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